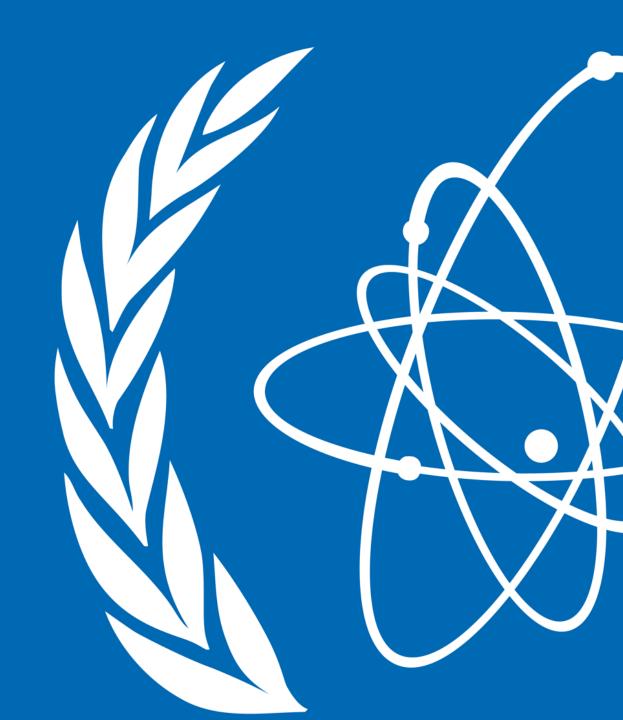
# INPRO Activities in Innovative Fast Reactor Technologies

Carolynn Scherer, INPRO Section Head

TM Advances and Innovations in Fast Reactor Design and Technology

2 Oct 2025

Vienna, Austria



#### Content

- What is INPRO
- INPRO Concept of Sustainable Nuclear Energy Planning
- INPRO Activities in Fast Reactors
- Support to Member States



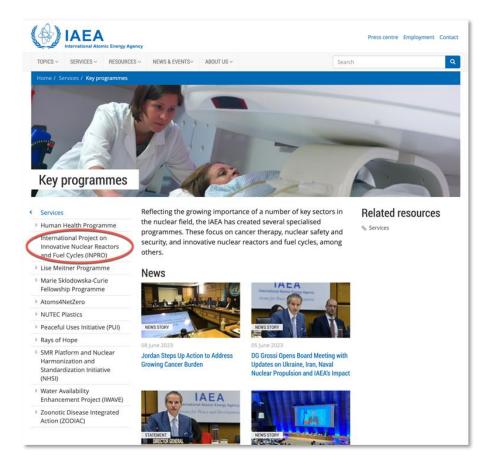
Ensure that *nuclear energy is available* to contribute to sustainably fulfilling, energy needs in the 21st century & beyond



INPRO 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at IAEA General Conference, 16 Sep 2025

# International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles - INPRO

#### Key IAEA Programme



#### INPRO Section in IAEA Structure





Department of Nuclear Energy

Deputy Director General

Chudakov

Program Manager: DDG-NE



Division of Nuclear Power

Director

des Cloizeaux



Section Head
Scherer

#### **INPRO Members**

EC

**AFRICA** 

#### 46 Member States + European Commission (EC)



### **Beginning of INPRO**



#### **History**

- Initiated by IAEA General Conference Resolution in September 2000
- Launched in May 2001
- Agency-wide project run by Steering Committee
- Implemented mostly using extra-budgetary funds

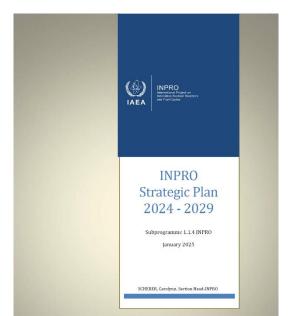
#### GC(44)/RES/21 and 22

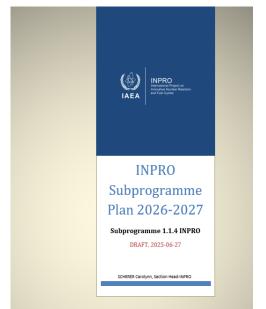
*Invited all interested member states to:* 

- Combine their efforts under the aegis of the Agency in considering the issues of the nuclear fuel cycle, in particular by examining innovative and proliferation resistant nuclear technology
- Contribute to a task force on innovative nuclear reactors and fuel cycles

### **INPRO Steering Committee**

- Meets annually to review progress
- Provides guidance on INPRO activities and projects
- Endorses INPRO Strategic Plan
  - 6-year strategic plan
  - Aligns: IAEA Medium Term Strategy 2024-2029
- Endorses INPRO Subprogramme Plan
  - Defines project areas and tasks
- Supports INPRO through extrabudgetary funds







INPRO 33<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee Meeting (SCM-33) 29-30 Oct 2024

#### **Objectives from Terms of Reference (ToR)**

- Ensure that nuclear energy is available to contribute in fulfilling, in a sustainable manner, energy needs in the 21st century
- Bring together all interested Member States, technology holders and technology users,
  - to **consider jointly the international and national actions** required to achieve desired innovations in nuclear reactors and fuel cycles that are
  - economically competitive,
  - inherently safe,
  - minimize risk of proliferation and
  - environmentally minimal impact
- Create a process that involves all relevant stake holders that will have an impact on, draw from, and complement both the activities of existing institutions and ongoing initiatives at national and international levels



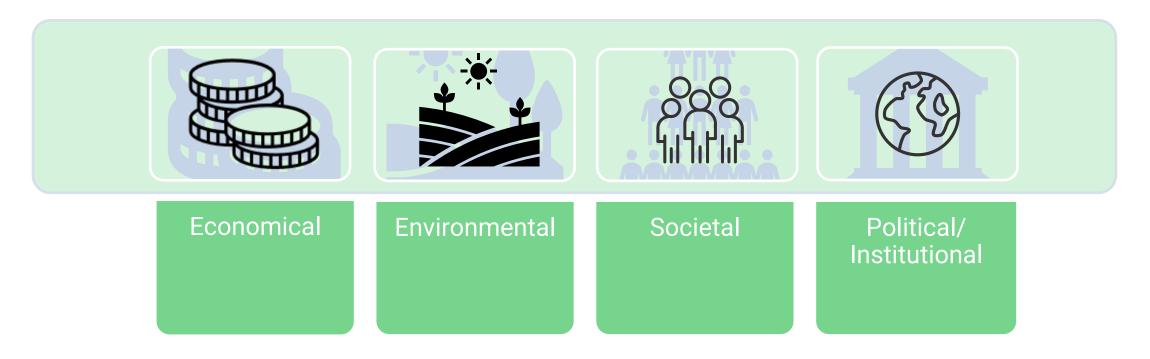








# **UN Concept of Sustainable Energy Development**



Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

<sup>\*</sup> Our Common Future: Report of the UN World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland Commission), 1987

# **Sustainable Energy Planning**

Sustainable energy supply is an important requisite for a country to obtain sustainable development

Definition of the role of nuclear power in a sustainable energy supply mix

Role of

**Nuclear** 

**Energy** 

Ensure nuclear energy can contribute in a sustainable manner for the current century and beyond

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs\*

Sustainable

**Development** 

Sustainable **Energy Supply**  National, regional, global long-term planning covering all energy sources

**Planning** 

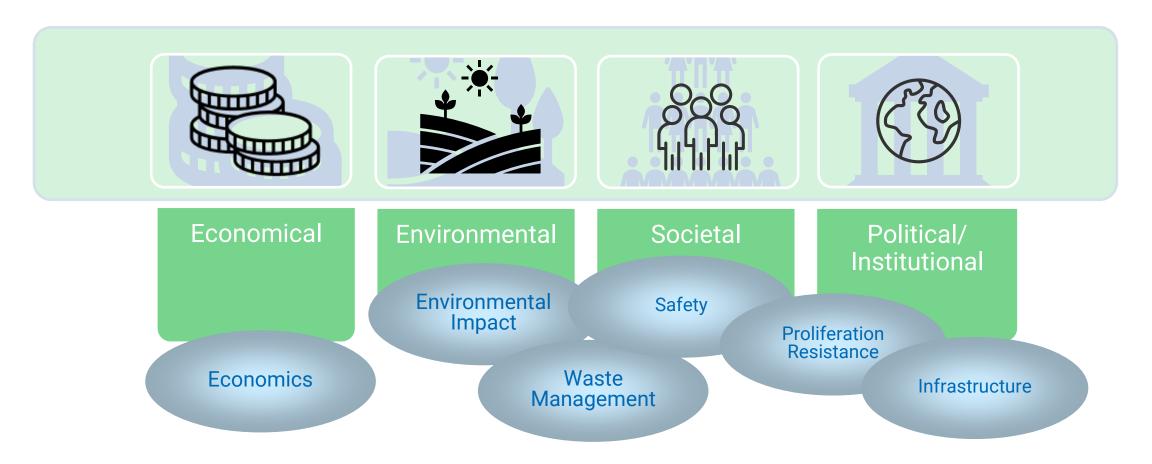
**Energy System**<sup>1</sup>

**Planning for** Sustainable **Nuclear Energy** 

Energy supply is fundamental to sustainable development of the world

Sustainable energy supply needs significant contribution of nuclear energy

#### **INPRO Methodology for Sustainable Nuclear Energy**



Built upon UN concept of sustainable development Built a standardized methodology

## **INPRO Methodology Key Areas**

Ensure NE remains economically viable and competitive

Limiting environmental effects and ensure longterm resource availability

Consciously protecting current and future generations



Environmental Impact



Waste Management

Unattractive to a proliferator Prevent/ minimize mishaps Robust legal, regulatory, and institutional frameworks to support



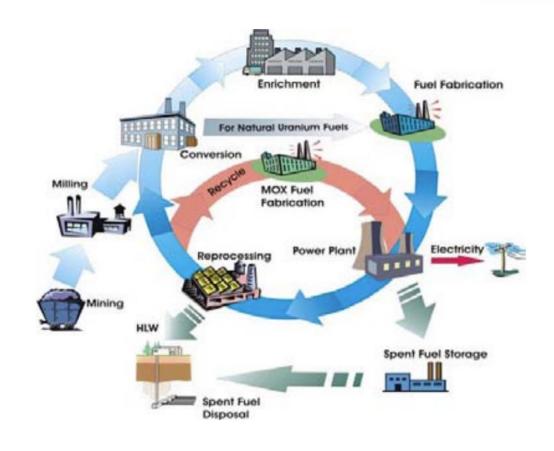
**Safety** 



Infrastructure

#### Sustainable nuclear energy planning

Nuclear energy can contribute in a sustainable manner for a century and beyond

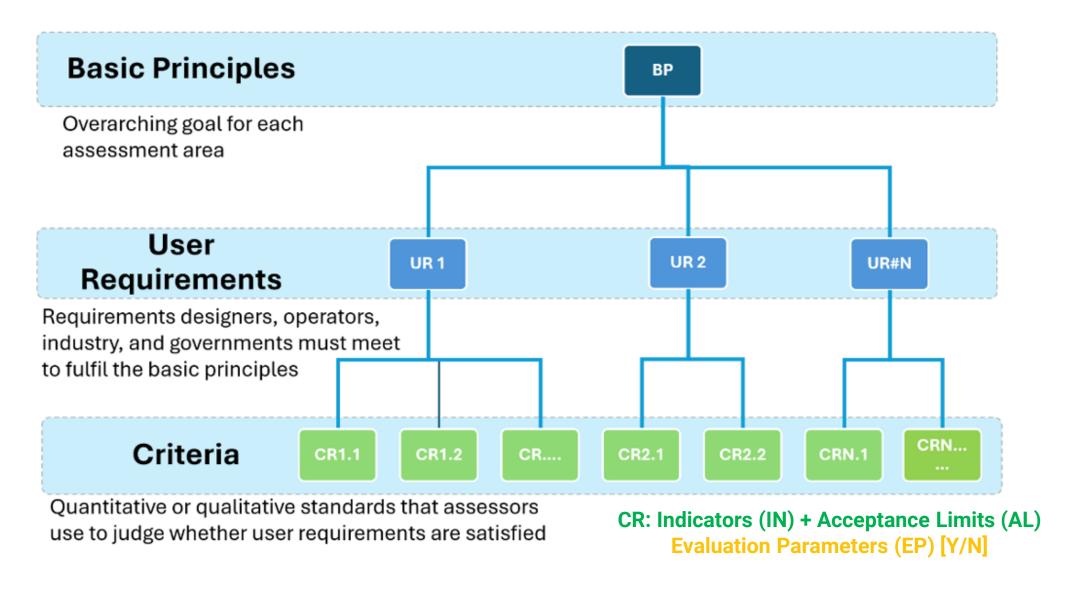


#### **INPRO Methodology**

- ➤ Initial focus on nuclear reactor facilities
- ➤ Innovative and evolutionary
- ➤ Holistic
- ➤ Lifecycle
- Making decisions on innovative nuclear energy systems
- Supports future generations in meeting their needs

2025 2050 2075 2100 2125

# **INPRO Methodology Framework**



# **NESA Innovative - Sustainability**

Progressive

- Toward improved metric
- Reduces uncertainty
- Identify R&D needs

Comparative

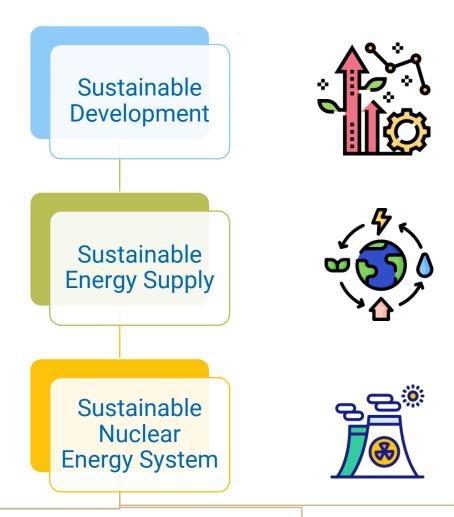
• Performance on a metric for 2 options

Innovative

- Forward-looking target value for a metric
- Less impact on environment, better economics, etc.
- Identification of R&D needs

### **INPRO Scope**

An IAEA forward looking project that integrates all areas important to the sustainability of nuclear energy





Modelling & Analysis



Role of Innovations



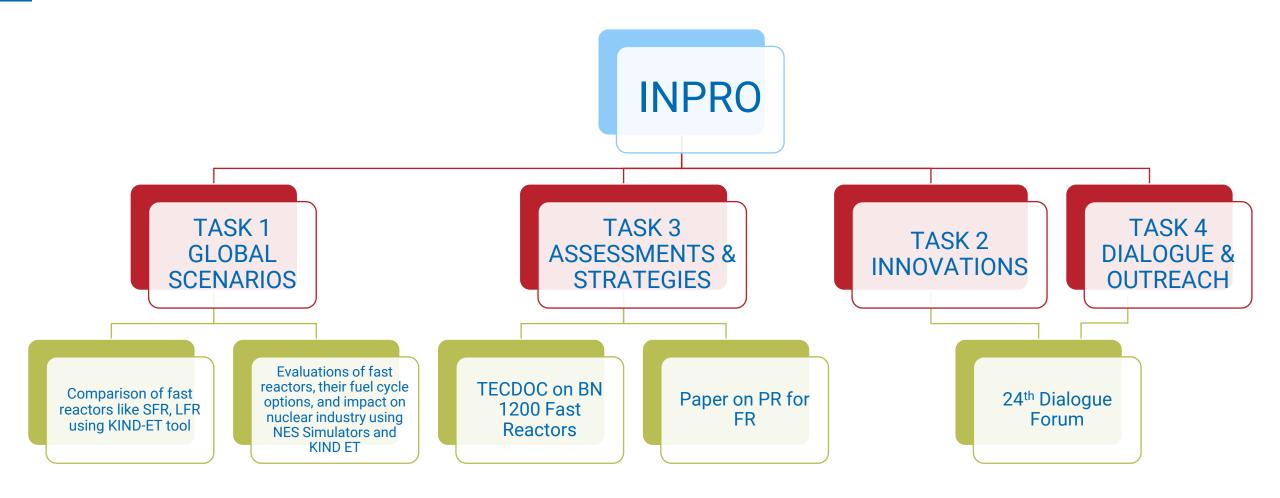
Sustainability Assessments



Dialogue and Outreach

INPRO addresses all dimensions of sustainability concept

#### **Fast Reactor activities in INPRO Task areas**



#### TASK 1

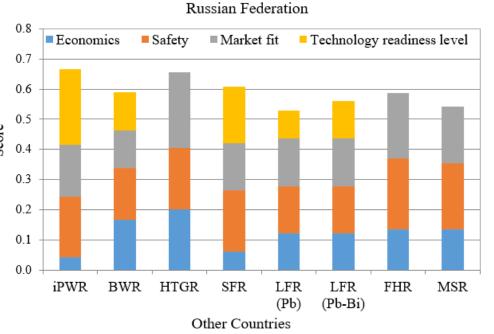
# **ASENES SMR – Case study by Russian Federation**

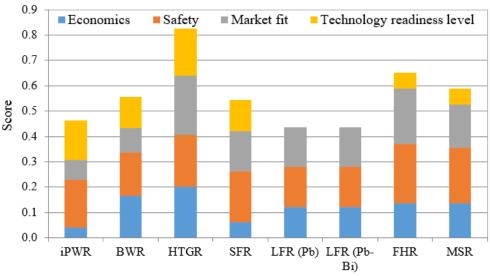
Objective: Compare different reactor technologies in application

to SMRs

**Results:** 

- Integral PWR is preferred in Russia; HTGR for countries other than Russia
- TRL should not be considered strictly as a criterion but rather being a factor affecting customer's choice





#### STEP FORWARD

The STEP FORWARD collaborative project applies the INPRO methods and tools, along with national tools of relevance to evaluate NES scenarios operating light water reactors (LWRs) and evolutionary reactors with a thermal neutron spectrum and deploying innovative nuclear installations to support multi-recycling of spent fuel.

- ✓ TM: 6-10 Oct 2025, Indonesia
- MS: France, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Rep. of Korea, Pakistan, Russian Fed., Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, USA

Several scenarios with fast reactors and associated fuel cycles



#### IAEA TECDOC SERIES

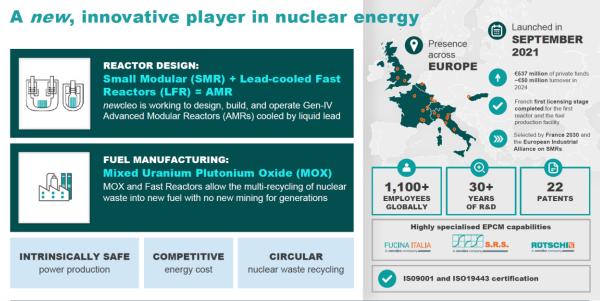
Analysis Support for Enhanced Nuclear Energy Sustainability Pilot Study "Potential of Innovative Nuclear Installations to Support Multi-Recycling of Fuel in a Nuclear Energy System "STEP FORWARD"

2026



# Task 2 – 24<sup>th</sup> Dialogue Forum







newcleo

### Task 3: INPRO Application to FR

**China: CEFR** 

- Safety
- Economics
- Date published: 2021

**On BN1200 Fast Reactors** 

#### IAEA TECDOC SERIES

IAEA-TECDOC-1959

Limited Scope Sustainability
Assessment of Planned
Nuclear Energy Systems
Based on BN-1200 Fast Reactors



#### **Appling INPRO Methodology in PR to FR**

- August 2025
- Paper with IAEA and authors from GIF PR & PP WG

INPRO Methodology for Proliferation Resistance of Fast Reactors and Fuel Cycles

INPRO the International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles

Divya Bojja, INPRO Intern Carolynn Scherer | Section Head INPRO

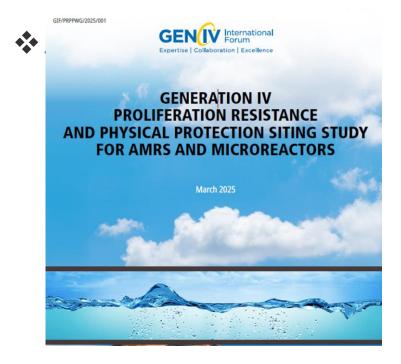
EVT2304537, 18-21 Aug 2025

C. SCHERER, D. BOJJA, S.G. YOON, M. ARDHAMMAR, C. De FRANCIA, J.-S. LEE, J. S. ADAMS, C. BATHKE (Retired), B. BOYER, S. CHIRAYATH, G.G.M. COJAZZI (Retired), B. van der ENDE, G. RENDA<sup>7</sup>



#### **Cooperation with International Organizations**

- ❖ Working on GIF PRPPWG Observer
- Generation IV International Forum Case Study of 3S Interfaces for a Very High Temperature Reactor System

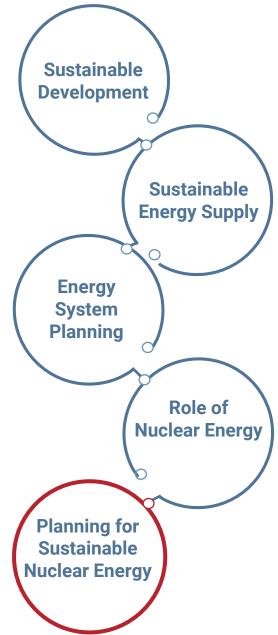




INternational PROject on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles (INPRO)

Ensure nuclear energy can contribute, in a sustainable manner, to the energy needs of the current century and beyond

- Support Member States in their long-term planning for deploying sustainable nuclear energy – INPRO methodology
- Provide support for developing advanced and innovative nuclear energy systems:
  - Scenario modelling and analysis,
  - Technical and institutional innovations
  - Sustainability assessments and strategies
  - Education, outreach, dialogue
- Facilitate cooperation and collaboration among Member States in their roles as nuclear energy technology developers, suppliers and customers



# **Building Capacity in Strategic Planning for Sustainable Nuclear Energy**

**Target Audience** 

Experts, analysts, advisors to decision makers

Junior experts, analysts, engineers, managers, graduates, post-graduates, university teachers

**Universities** and centers of excellence, **teachers**, **post-graduates**, and students

#### **INPRO Advisory Service**

supporting countries in making informed decisions on nuclear energy development and deployment

National level, upon MS request

#### **INPRO Schools**

developing and strengthening competencies

ICTP, National, Regional, International level

# Developing competencies (Collaborative Project - Universities, workshops, schools)

building competencies for long-term nuclear energy planning

National, Regional, International level

Supports Members States to prepare for Milestones Approach – sustainable nuclear energy planning

#### **INPRO Section**



C. Scherer **Section Head INPRO** 



**New USA JPO** Louis Dauphin





**Finance Assistant** S. Crozier



Implementation Assistant T.-L. Loi

#### TASK 1 **Global Scenarios**



C. Johari Task Leader

M. Gladyshev

Task Leader



P. Ptitsyn Russian CFE



Faiza Sohail MSC Intern



H.S. Cho **RoK CFE** 

TASK 4 **Dialogue and Outreach** 

Divya Bojja

MSC Intern

TASK 2 **Innovations** 



**New Keith Fox USA CFE** 



H. Khartabil Task Leader



**RoK Intern** 



Russ, Intern

Pending



M. Khoroshev



M. T. Vu Task Leader

TASK 3 **Sustainability Assessment and Strategies** 



# Thank you!

C.Scherer@IAEA.org